

Americans have seen more than 240 mass shootings in just 158 days. In the past week, a pregnant woman was shot at a picnic in Saginaw, Michigan, and a young boy was shot in Flint.

It does not have to be this way.

America is the only developed country in the world where this type of gun violence happens every single day.

And that is why I support these commonsense efforts to expand red flag laws; to raise the purchasing age for some semiautomatic weapons to 21 years of age; to crack down on gun trafficking and straw purchases; to address ghost guns, untraceable guns without serial numbers that can be bought and assembled at home; to restrict high-capacity magazines; and to ban bump stocks, devices that turn semiautomatic rifles into automatic weapons, into a machine gun.

I wrote this legislation back in 2017 after a mass shooter in Las Vegas was able to fire over 1,000 rounds in just mere minutes, killing 60 people.

While no single law will stop every tragedy, we can do what we can, and that is why I support this important legislation. I am glad the House passed it. The Senate should take it up now.

□ 1145

CHILDREN KILLED BY GUN VIOLENCE THIS YEAR

(Mr. CASTEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CASTEN. Madam Speaker, I will take a moment after the shootings this week just to read the names of the children under 10 years old in America who have been killed by guns so far this year.

Aiden, age 8.
Alice, a newborn.
Alyssa, age 6.
Amare, age 10.
Andres, age 9.
Antonio, who went by the nickname "Espn," age 7.
Arbrie, age 8.
Ariah, age 7.
Arlene, age 9.
Asa, age 8.
Ashton, age 2.
Autumn, age 3.
Avery, 3.
Bella, 4, and her sister, Brixx, was a newborn.
Bridger, age 10.
Bryson, 3.
Caleb, 5.
Cayden, 10.
Charlie, 10.
Charlotte, 9.
Charvez, 2.
Chloe, 7.
Clesslynn, 2.

Madam Speaker, I realize I am being gavelled out there, but there are 600 names on this list. I can't read these in 1 minute.

Are we going to act, or are we going to throw up useless thoughts and prayers? It is time to act.

GUN LAWS

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, America has been through a tough time the last few weeks due to serious incidents that happened in Buffalo and in Texas. But last week, I was down at the Mexican border, and I talked to some Border Patrol guys, who, because we were Congressmen, brought up what happens when we make it as difficult as possible for law-abiding people to own guns.

Right now, if you compare Mexico and the United States, Mexico has—per capita—about five times as many murders as they do in the U.S. Not 5 percent more, not 50 percent more, five times as many. I am sure the Mexican elected officials who passed those laws making it so difficult to get a gun thought they were going to have a peaceful paradise down there.

Right now, many people are running all over each other to say: Let's pass law. Let's pass this law. Let's take a look and see what happened in Mexico and whether the sole answer is more laws.

Meanwhile, I have a bill making it more difficult to bring guns into schools, and right now, that bill is not moving. I think that would have a good impact.

RECOGNIZING BETTY REID SOSKIN

(Mr. DESAULNIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Betty Reid Soskin, as she finally enters retirement from the National Park Service at age 100. Betty has had too many jobs and too many accomplishments and too many compliments for just 1 minute, so I will share a few of the highlights of this remarkable woman's life.

During World War II, Betty was a file clerk for the Boilermakers Union A-36 in Richmond, California, an all-Black union auxiliary.

In 2004, she became a park ranger with the National Park Service assigned to the Rosie the Riveter Park in Richmond, California. In this role, Betty shared her story as a young Black woman working during the war and long held the honorable distinction of being the Nation's oldest National Park Ranger.

Americans came from all over the country to listen to Betty's voice. Betty has been recognized over the years for her advocacy and her commitment to social justice, including by President Obama as Glamour magazine's Woman of the Year, and recently, had a local middle school named after her.

Betty is an important part of our community and our country, and I am proud to call her a friend and a con-

stituent. Her leadership and passionate spirit are an inspiration to all of us, all who have been fortunate enough to know her and for all Americans who know of her.

Congratulations, Betty, and thank you for a wonderful life of service to our community and to our country.

COMPREHENSIVE GUN REFORM

(Mr. JEFFRIES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JEFFRIES. Madam Speaker, this week, House Democrats have led the effort to pass comprehensive gun violence prevention legislation to address this epidemic here in America. We will also ensure that the American people know the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth with respect to the violent insurrection and attack on our Capitol to protect the integrity of our democracy.

At the same time, we continue to fight for good-paying jobs, to lower costs and ensure an economy that works for everyday Americans. We believe in a country where if you work hard and play by the rules, you should be able to provide a comfortable living for yourself and for your family, educate your children, purchase a home, and retire with grace and dignity. That is the great American Dream that we are fighting to preserve for the people.

SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD), my friend.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT), my good friend, for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about a major problem facing our communities, and that is human violence. I have four children and four beautiful grandchildren who are school-aged.

Madam Speaker, I have to tell you, when I turned on the television set and saw what was going on in Uvalde, Texas, my heart sank. I saw my grandchildren in the faces of those children that I saw fleeing from that horrible violence that was being conducted that afternoon. It is too often that we turn on our TV sets and see images of schools locked down and grieving communities. Unfortunately, as I mentioned, we saw that unfold in Uvalde, Texas. Yet, every time tragedy strikes, we hear the same conversation, calls for bans on firearms, universal background checks, and red flag laws. That is how we spent the last two days in this Chamber, talking about partisan bills that are, number one, redundant—a lot of these laws already exist—or number two, they are laws that will infringe on the rights of law-abiding